(b) whether a labourer/workman is given 5 kgs. of rice or 6 kgs. of wheat and Rs. 28/- per day towards his salary;

(c) whether this monthly amount of Rs. 840/- is sufficient to meet the family requirements of a labour/workman; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by Government to increase the daily wages of the labour as per the dearness allowance?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) According to the Planning Commission, all India poverty line for rural and urban areas is estimated at average per capita monthly income of Rs. 327.56 and Rs. 454.11 in 1999-2000 respectively.

(b) to (d) Wages of workers differ from occupation to occupation, unit to unit and region to region. Fixation of wage above the notified 'Minimum' is a subject of negotiation between the employers and the employees.

Amendment in labour laws

2493. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend labour laws in the country to meet the requirement of foreign direct investment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Review/updation of labour laws is a continuous process in order to bring them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs of the economy, such as, attaining higher levels of productivity and competitiveness, increasing employment opportunities, attracting more investment both domestic and foreign, etc. Accordingly, Bills, to amend the Factories Act, 1948 and the Labour Laws (Exemption from Furnishing Returns and Maintaining Registers by certain Establishments) Act, 1988 have been introduced in the Parliament.

Migration of labour

2494. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to the recurrent